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ABSTRACT

A comprehensive study of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in Texas was conducted to provide an accurate estimate of this farmworker population, to obtain data about their demographic characteristics, and to determine the extent of use of social service agencies, especially those delivering services under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. Names of 2,862 migrant and seasonal farmworker households were randomly selected from the participant rolls of social service agencies in 7 regions which were a recognized home base for migrants and had adequate outreach coverage. A standardized interview instrument was used for guidance in soliciting information from 1,609 interviewees. Interview data identified a group of migrant and seasonal farmworkers which provided an unbiased sample that was used to estimate the population. Respondents in this sample provided information which was used to calculate the percentage of migrant and seasonal farmworkers currently being "counted" (listed as participants of a social service agency) as compared to those who were "uncounted" (not listed as participants of any social service agency). A "counted to uncounted" ratio was developed and applied to all areas of the State, thus providing population estimates. Among the findings were that there were 85,600 migrant and seasonal farmworker households in Texas; 375,000 persons resided in migrant households and 120,000 in seasonal farmworker households; and 95% were of Mexican or Mexican American origin. (NQ)

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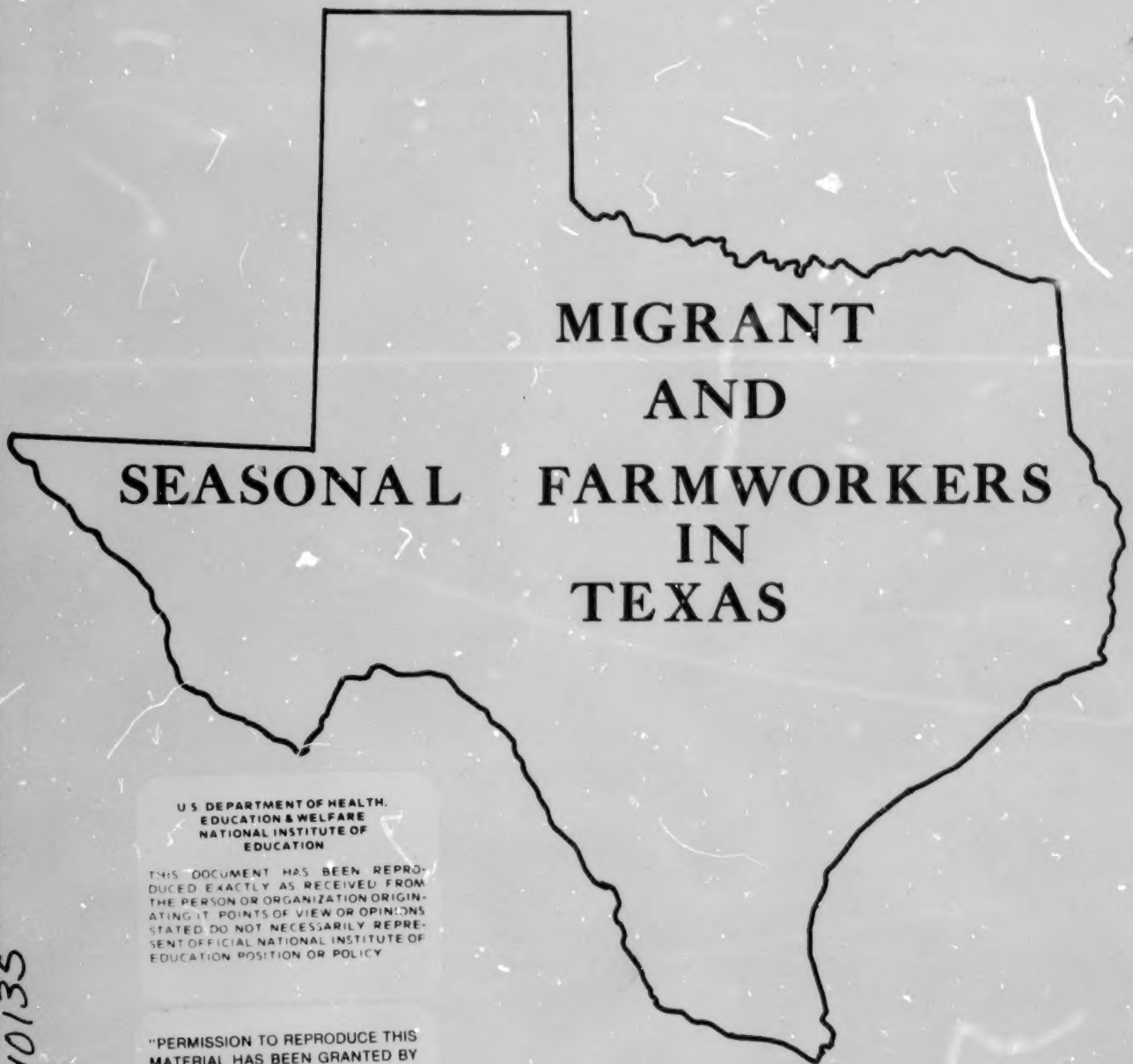

MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS IN TEXAS

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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DOLPH BRISCOE
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MIGRANT AFFAIRS

ROJELJO P. PEREZ
DIRECTOR

July 15, 1976

Dolph Briscoe
Governor
State Capitol
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Briscoe:

At this time I would like to express my appreciation to you for giving your Office of Migrant Affairs the opportunity to update the migrant and seasonal farmworker population count through a grant approved by the State Manpower Services Council (S.M.S.C.).

This report is the only one ever published by a State agency which will indicate a total count of the migrant and seasonal farmworker statewide and by county. It also contains important demographic information pertinent to this unique portion of the state population. We have complied with the goals and objectives as stated in the proposal approved by the S.M.S.C. Special Projects Committee. This project will be continued on a yearly basis by the coordinating grant made possible by you through Comprehensive Employment Training Act State Services money. This will allow continuity on all information necessary for future planning and funding levels.

It is my hope that the Migrant Population Survey will serve as a guide to local, state, and federal agencies in planning programs for migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the State of Texas.

Sincerely yours,

Rojelio P. Perez
Director

RPP:gf

SAM HOUSTON BLDG. • RM. 108 • P.O. BOX 12428 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 • (512) 475-6799

GOMA No. 76-01
Fund No. 224

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Population Survey

Final Report

July 15, 1976

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Prepared By

Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs
201 East 14th Street, Room 109
Austin, Texas 78701

This study was conducted and this report prepared under a contract with the State Manpower Services Council. Organizations undertaking such projects under State Government sponsorship are encouraged to state their findings and express their judgements fully. Therefore, the points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent the official position of the State Manpower Services Council of the State of Texas.

PREFACE

This report describes the findings of a study conducted by the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs. The study was conducted to obtain a statewide estimate of the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker population. Conclusions presented here were based on a comprehensive study of seven areas in Texas having the highest concentration of migrant and seasonal farmworkers. In addition, support data was obtained from nearly 300 social service agencies and their branch facilities throughout the state. Project staff made an effort to combine primary data with secondary information to achieve maximum validity and reliability with minimum resources. Despite numerous difficulties inherent in conducting a study of such magnitude, the project yielded valuable information to support recommendations for policy revision, future funding levels and program development.

The report is organized into six main parts; An Executive Summary of Findings; background of the study; a description of the methodology; results of the study; a discussion of findings and recommendations; and appendices.

The summary presents a brief description of the project and its findings. A rationale and background for the project follows in Part II. Methodological considerations and survey

strategies are described in the third part of the report. Findings and their implications for programs and policies follow in parts four and five; survey instruments and other detailed information comprise the appendix.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs wishes to express appreciation to a number of agencies and individuals who assisted in the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Survey.

Without the support of the State Manpower Services Council and participating Department of Labor prime sponsors the project could not have been undertaken. Members of the Special Projects committee of the State Manpower Services Council were particularly helpful in offering assistance at each phase of the study. Prime Sponsors and other sponsoring agencies and their personnel involved in the project are listed in the following pages. The project was successful only because of the hard work and commitment of these individuals.

Valuable assistance was received from Texas Employment Commission officials, the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census throughout the course of the study.

Finally, the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs wishes to thank the thousands of migrant and seasonal farmworkers who participated in the survey. Their participation has contributed to a better understanding of the migrant

and seasonal farmworkers population in Texas. Hopefully, a better understanding of this population will lead to improved services programs and opportunities.

Although considerable assistance was received from the above mentioned agencies and individuals, the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs bears sole responsibility for the opinions, conclusions and interpretations contained in the report.

AMARILLO

Argus Burnett
Executive Director

Texas Panhandle Community
Action Corporation
1605 West 7th Street
Amarillo, Texas 79102

ANTHONY

Adrian Baca
Mayor

Town of Anthony
P. O. Box 1269
Anthony, Texas 88021

BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN

E. A. Gonzales
Executive Director

Cameron County Resources
and Community Affairs
1156 Elizabeth Street, Rm. 435
Brownsville, Texas 78520

COASTAL BEND

Juan Bosquez
Manpower Coordinator

City of Corpus Christi-Work
Experience Program Office
724 Bradshaw
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

CORSICANA

Jerome Vacek
Executive Director

Community Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 612
Corsicana, Texas 75110

EDINBURG-McALLEN

Nick Ramirez, Jr.
Executive Director

County of Hidalgo
Department of Community
Affairs
1212 South 25th Street
Edinburg, Texas 78539

EL PASO

Richard Najera
Alderman

Mario Sanchez
Manpower Director

City of El Paso
Department of Human
Development
1801 Wyoming Street
El Paso, Texas 79901

EL PASO

Joe Aguilar
Executive Director

Project BRAVO, Inc.
716 N. Piedras
El Paso, Texas 79903

HOUSTON

Palmer Bowser, Jr.
Director, Manpower
Programs

City of Houston
One Allen Center
Houston, Texas 77008

LAREDO

Oscar Villarreal
Executive Director

Texas Migrant Council
2220 Santa Ursula
Laredo, Texas 78040

Horacio Acevedo
Executive Director

Webb County Manpower Programs
Laredo Air Force Base, Bldg. 979
Laredo, Texas 79336

LEVELLAND

Howard Maddera
Executive Director

South Plains Community Action
Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 610, City Park
Levelland, Texas 79336

AMARILLO

Martha Ramirez
Hortense Trevino

Texas Panhandle Community
Action Corporation
1605 West 7th Avenue
Amarillo, Texas 79102

ANTHONY

Tom Nance
Carlos C. Vargas

Town of Anthony
P. O. Box 1269
Anthony, Texas 88021

BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN

Gaudencia Campos
Baldemar Sanchez

Cameron County Resources
and Community Affairs
1156 Elizabeth Street, Rm. 405
Brownsville, Texas 78520

COASTAL BEND

Consuelo A. Martinez
Simon Padron, Jr.
Mary K. Whitmire

City of Corpus Christi-Work
Experience Program Office
724 Bradshaw
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

CORSICANA

Lester E. McGary, III

Community Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 612
Corsicana, Texas 75110

COTULLA-ASHERTON

Carlos Cervantes

Texas Migrant Council
2220 Santa Ursula
Laredo, Texas 78040

DEL RIO

Blanca Olivas	Texas Migrant Council 2220 Santa Ursula Laredo, Texas 78040

EAGLE PASS

Wilfred Eggleton Rudy Hernandez Maria Graciela Ruiz	Texas Migrant Council 2220 Santa Ursula Laredo, Texas 78040

EDINBURG-MC ALLEN

Rosa Diaz Guillermo C. Fosales Maria Luisa Zamora	County of Hidalgo Department of Community Affairs 1212 South 25th Street Edinburg, Texas 78539

EL PASO

Cecilia Campa George Frietze, Jr. Guillermo Mora	Project BRAVO, Inc. 716 N. Piedras El Paso, Texas 79903

HOUSTON

Andrew S. Garcia Carl Lindsey Juan Reyes	Vocational Guidance Service, Inc. 2525 San Jacinto Houston, Texas 77002

LAREDO

Homero Mojica	Webb County Manpower Programs Laredo Air Force Base, Bldg. 979 P. O. Box 1757 Laredo, Texas 79336

LEVELLAND

Mollie Juarez
Luis Perez

South Plains Community Action Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 610, City Park
Levelland, Texas 79336

MIDLAND

Clarence H. Rankin
Olivia Salazar
James Taylor

Midland Community Action Agency
P. O. Box 2433
Midland, Texas 79701

SABINAL

Victor M. Apodaca
Ernesto S. Salinas

Texas Migrant Council
2220 Santa Ursula
Laredo, Texas 78040

UVALDE

Yolanda Trevino

Texas Migrant Council
2220 Santa Ursula
Laredo, Texas 78040

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 1975, the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs initiated a comprehensive study of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in Texas. Objectives of the effort were the following:

- To provide an accurate estimate of the migrant and seasonal farmworker population.
- To obtain information about the demographic characteristics of migrant and seasonal farmworker households.
- To determine the extent of use of social service agencies especially those delivering services under provisions of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

To achieve these objectives approximately twenty outreach workers were provided by selected CETA prime sponsors and other agencies to canvass seven areas of the state. Efforts began in mid-summer, 1975 to obtain lists of names of migrant and seasonal farmworker households from the participant rolls of social service agencies in the seven regions under scrutiny. These lists were forwarded to the project staff in Austin. As soon as outreach staff completed their review of

agency rolls, they were provided with a list of migrant and seasonal households to be interviewed. Names of interviewees were randomly selected from agency listings which had been submitted to Austin in the initial phase of data collection.

A standardized interview instrument was designed, validated and given to outreach workers for guidance in soliciting information. Instruments were filled out for each interviewee and returned to Austin weekly. Information obtained from interviews conducted during the second phase of data collection additionally identified a group of migrant and seasonal which provided an unbiased sample which was used to estimate the population. Respondents in the unbiased sample provided information which was used to calculate the percentage of migrants and seasonal farmworkers which were currently being "counted", (those individuals listed as participants of a social service agency), in comparison to those who were "uncounted", (those individuals not listed as participants of any social service agency). A "counted to uncounted" ratio was developed and applied to all areas of the state, thus providing population estimates. The following findings were noted:

- There are approximately 85,600 migrant and seasonal farmworker households in Texas.

- Approximately 375,000 persons reside in migrant households; 120,000 in seasonal farmworker households.

- Migrant and Seasonal farmworker households are well established with older family members than the national average.

- 95% of migrant and seasonal farmworkers are of Mexican or Mexican-American origin.

- Household size is significantly above the national, as well as spanish surnamed household average. The mean size of migrant and seasonal farmworker households is 6 persons.

- An overwhelming majority of migrant and seasonal farmworker households receive annual incomes well below Community Service Administration (C.S.A.) established poverty levels. (Appendix 3)

- Although most migrant and seasonal farmworker households are eligible for a wide range of social services, only a slim majority (52%) receive assistance from social service agencies.

- 37% of migrant households migrate to work at sites within the state. The remainder travel principally to the West, Midwest and Southeast Regions of the country.

PART II:

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Traditionally, Texas has been recognized as the home base for a majority of migrant farmworkers in the United States. Migrant farmworkers are a significant portion of the state's work force. While migrants can be found throughout the state, most reside in regional concentrations in South and West Texas.

The plight of migrant farmworkers is well documented. They are characterized by low income, low educational attainment, few occupational skills, low housing conditions and what Oscar Lewis has described as the "culture of poverty".[1] Migrants seemingly have little control over their destiny, a narrow range of career choices and generally negative perspectives about the present and future.

The outlook for migrant farmworkers has become even more tenuous as a result of technological advancements in agriculture. Automation and advanced mechanization in agricultural activities reduces the need for laborers and increases the number of unemployed and underemployed individuals. Occupational change and mobility is no easy process for migrants.

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[1]/Oscar Lewis: Children of Sanchez; New York: Random, 1961

Lacking skills, backgrounds and attitudes for other than agricultural work, migrants who drop from the "stream" (the established circulation pattern for seasonal employment) encounter much difficulty in searching for and obtaining jobs.

Many resources are expended in assisting migrant farmworkers both in and out of the stream. The lists of agencies both public and private is much too long to cite here. However, most of their goals are common. They provide medical, economic, manpower assistance and a plethora of social services. Among the latter are child care, nutritional support and family planning services.

With but few exceptions, migrant services are subvented by the federal government. The Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare are the two agencies most responsible for delivering migrant program support. Funds are distributed through direct grants, and state and local revenue sharing. Federal funds are allocated to states on the basis of population.

Both Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare, depend on Bureau of the Census estimates to determine the number and demographic status of each state's population.

Data on unemployment, underemployment, poverty and other characteristics is derived from the Current Population Survey[2] which is published as a monthly update of the 1970 Census. The Current Population Survey is the principal determinant in the distributing of federal program expenditures.

Reliance on the Current Population Survey has created cause for much concern. State and local officials have agreed that the Current Population Survey has questionable accuracy, as such, it should not be used as a data base. Bureau of the Census officials concur that the Current Population Survey has drawbacks. It is based on the 1970 Census, which has an admittedly significant undercount of minority groups. The groups surveyed monthly is an extremely small one, reducing representativeness of the findings.

In compiling the Current Population Survey, substantial percentages of population groups difficult to count are overlooked, thereby resulting in underestimation of their numbers. The Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs has argued that the migrant farmworker population is one such group undercounted by Bureau of the Census. As a result of the undercount, Texas receives a disproportionate share of federal program funds.

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[2]/Department of Commerce: Bureau of the Census; Current Population Survey.

For this reason, the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs sought and received support from the State Manpower Services Council to conduct a statewide study of the migrant population. The study had three objectives:

- To provide a current, accurate estimate of the migrant and seasonal farmworker population in Texas.

- To determine the impact of social service programs, particularly CETA, on the migrant and seasonal farmworker population; and

- To provide a demographic profile of migrant and seasonal farmworker households.

The study sought to combine efforts of the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs, CETA Prime Sponsors, CETA Title III, service deliverers, and the State Manpower Services Council.

PART III

METHODOLOGY

Sampling Technique

In dealing with hundreds of thousands of persons an attempt to count every individual is not feasible; therefore, a system had to be designed to increase the accuracy of statistical sampling, with the object of enumerating persons consistently overlooked by surveys using other methods. One approach to this problem is to increase the size of the sample itself, since accuracy increases as the sample size approaches a statistical optimum. Another approach stresses quality of the representativeness of the sample; that is, to include a range of individuals that comprise the total population.

Reliability of an estimate can be described in terms of standard errors. These are construed as measures of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample, rather than all the population, is surveyed. Chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from a sample would vary from the population by less than one (1) standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error. Chances are 99 of 100 that differences would occur within 3 standard errors.

Sample size in this survey was calculated on a 3 standard error level. This means that differences occur between the sample and population in only one of 100 cases. Statements of comparison can be interpreted as significant at the .01 level of confidence.[3] Using 3 standard errors as a level of confidence the sample size was estimated with the following formula:

$$n\ (\text{sample}) = \begin{pmatrix}\text{level of confidence}\\ \text{stated in terms of}\\ \text{standard errors}\end{pmatrix} \cdot \sqrt{\text{estimated population}}$$

Drawing from a synthesis of previous studies of the Texas migrant and seasonal farmworker population, there was estimated to be 60,000 target households in the state. Thus,

$$n\ (\text{sample}) = (3) \cdot (\sqrt{60,000})$$

$$n = (3) \cdot (245)$$

$$n = 735$$

Analysis of the first returns from the interviewing process indicated that about sixty percent of the sample could not be reached. To obtain a data base of 735, then, it was calculated that at least 1900 households must comprise the original survey sample. If at least forty percent of these were interviewed a data base of 735 would be yielded.

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[3]/It should be noted that the .01 level of confidence is limited to the demographic description of the target group and not to the total population estimate. A more detailed discussion of limitations of those estimates follows later in the report.

Sample size was expected to be limited by outreach worker productivity. Varying levels of performance were obtained from the twenty personnel originally obtained from participating CETA prime sponsors. It was anticipated that interviewers could feasibly average 100 earnest interview attempts during the project, thus contacting approximately 2000 households. This proved to be an underestimate. A total of 2862 households were selected and contacts attempted: 1609 of these contacts yielded interviews.

Sample Selection Process

The migrant population admittedly comprises a small percentage of the states' total population. As such, sample units would be extremely difficult to find by using geographic clustering techniques. Door to door interviewing was unfeasible given the small proportion of migrants in the total population. A more efficient technique was required.

Having determined the numbers necessary to assure statistical validity of the study, the second step of sampling could be addressed since a full, statewide survey was impractical, it was decided that specific regions would be sampled. The next task was to determine regions for intensive analysis. Regions were chosen on the basis of two criteria:

- that the area was a recognized home base for migrants; and

- that adequate outreach coverage could be provided.

These criteria were met in: The Coastal Bend Region (Corpus Christi); the Deep Valley (Cameron, Willacy and Hidalgo Counties); Eagle Pass/Del Rio; El Paso; the North Plains areas; North Central Texas; and the Eastern Gulf Coast.

Sampling Unit Selection

Social service agencies and the Texas Employment Commission made available their records of migrant and seasonal farmworkers utilizing their services. CETA prime sponsors participating in the study provided the outreach personnel. Outreach workers first assembled names of migrant and seasonal farmworkers from secondary sources, next they interviewed a representative sample of the names on the lists prepared. During the interview process the respondents were asked to supply the names of acquaintances doing similar work as the respondents. Names of acquaintances were tallied; and a sample of these selected for further interviewing. It was from this second group (acquaintances suggested by persons whose names were drawn from social service rosters) that a "counted to uncounted" index was generated. Respondents in the second group served as an unbiased sample. The "counted to uncounted" index served as the basis for our adjustment of prior counts to produce the findings to be analyzed later in this report.

Data Analysis Procedures

There is an official count of migrant and seasonal farmworkers and food processors-migrant available for

every region of the state, which is maintained by the Texas Employment Commission. These data have limitations as accurate measures of the farm working populations, yet they were considered useful as an index.

By counting the farm-working population in each of the seven regions selected, accuracy of the Texas Employment Commission index was qualified statistically, and then weighted. These weights were then applied to Texas Employment Commission figures in all regions of the state to comprise a total population.

As a test of the accuracy of this extrapolated estimate, a sample area, Harlingen, was selected for an intensive headcount of migrant and seasonal farmworkers. This operation used a "snowball" strategy. Lists of names were gathered from all agencies. Persons whose names were on the list were interviewed and asked to name as many persons engaged in similar work as themselves. Persons referred to were interviewed and asked to name other acquaintances, who were in turn interviewed. Whenever a substantial percentage of newly obtained names were already on the list the process terminated. The list was adjusted accordingly to compensate for those still uncounted. The final count of migrants and seasonal farmworkers in the test area were compared statistically

to the estimate which was based on the "counted/uncounted" weighting index of the Texas Employment Commission figures. This intensive test supported the accuracy of the technique described, in that both the accuracy of numbers and the degree of representativeness did not vary significantly from the other six regions.

Interview Instrument Development

The following variables were selected for inclusion in the interview instrument:

- migrant, seasonal or full time work status;
- work history;
- size and composition of household;
- level and source of income;
- housing conditions;
- extent and level of used social service agencies;
- names of acquaintances to be used in Round II of the interviews.

Pre-coded items and questions were developed to obtain the desired information. The instrument was designed to limit interviews to no more than twenty minutes. The instrument required interviewers first to explain the purpose of the interview and then to assure anonymity of the respondents. Sensitive questions were avoided, save for income estimates.

A preliminary interview instrument was submitted to a panel of reviewers for criticism. Input derived from this process was used in revising a pilot test version of the instrument. This version was then tested in the field by outreach workers in sample households. Additional evaluation obtained in the piloting was considered before

finalizing the interview instrument. Since most migrants are of Mexican-American descent, a Spanish version of the instrument was developed. (Appendix 2)

Reliability of the Estimates

Since the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Population Survey estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would be obtained if a complete census were conducted. As in any sampling survey, the results are subject to errors of data collection and threats to internal and external validity. Of significant importance is the possibility of errors in response, reporting, as well as sampling variability. Particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on relatively small numbers of cases as well as small differences between figures.

PART IV: RESULTS OF THE STUDY

TABLE: 1

Results of Interview Effort

Selected from inclusion in sample base	2,862
Contacted and Interviewed	1,609
Contacted, but not Interviewed	222
Unable to locate at Address Noted	442
Moved, no Forwarding Address	492
No Such Address	97
	2,862

Outreach workers were supplied with lists of 2,862 households to be interviewed. This included both rounds of interviewing. Of that amount, 1,609 were contacted and interviewed. Two hundred-twenty-two households were contacted but not interviewed. Households in the latter category did not meet the definition of migrant or seasonal farmworker status used in the study, "Have you or anyone in your household been paid to work on a farm, in a packing shed or done any other work related to getting farm products ready for market in the last five years?" Interviewers were instructed to terminate interviews of such households.

About one thousand potential interviewees were unable to be located, had moved with no forwarding address, or were listed as having no such address. A sampling error of thirty six percent (36%) was actually yielded, well below the error of sixty percent (60%) expected at the outset. Selected households having "no such address" comprising a total of less than one percent (.09%), were due in part to listing errors and, especially in border areas, by false addresses given by Mexican Nationals or undocumented workers seeking social services. No effort was made to identify undocumented worker households in this study.

TABLE: 2

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO WERE REQUIRED TO LEAVE THEIR RESIDENCE TO PERFORM FARM WORK

Those who did leave residence (Migrants)	1104	69%
Those who did not leave residence (non-migrant farmworkers)	505	31%

To distinguish between migrant and other farmworkers, households were asked if they were required to leave their home to secure work. Of those responding, sixty-nine (69%) percent met the established criteria for migrant farmworker status. That is, they:

* had done farmwork within the last five years
* were required to leave their residence to obtain work.

The remaining thirty-one (31%) percent were analyzed to determine how many of these households were classified as seasonal farmworkers. They were questioned about length of job tenure to identify persons who work for five months or less annually.

TABLE: 3

LENGTH OF JOB TENURE FOR NON MIGRANT FARMWORKERS

5 months or less (seasonal)	43%	218
6 months or more (full time)	57%	287

Seasonal farmworkers were defined as those involved in farmwork for five months or less yearly and who did not leave their residence to obtain agricultural type work. A detailed description of seasonal farmworker households follows this narrative on the migrant population.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS

TABLE: 4

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Number of people living in respondents' household for three months or more.

PERSONS	PERCENTAGE	CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
1	4.7%	4.7%
2	5.8%	10.5%
3	9.0%	19.5%
4	13.3%	32.7%
5	14.7%	47.5%
6	16.8%	64.2%
7	11.9%	76.1%
8	9.2%	85.3%
9	6.5%	91.8%
10	3.6%	95.4%
11	2.2%	97.7%
12	1.1%	98.7%
13	1.3%	100.0%

The mean household size is six persons: about twenty -five percent of respondents had eight or nine persons.

One in five households has three or less. According to Bureau of the Census, average household size of Spanish -Surnamed persons is 4.02.[3] Migrant families clearly surpass that index and are on the average, one and one-half times as large as the U. S. norm.

To determine whether large households might be a function of multiple family residential arrangements, family numbers per household were counted.

TABLE: 5

NUMBER OF FAMILIES IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD

Families	Percentage
1	91%
2	8%
3	1%

Less than one out of ten households surveyed were composed of more than one family. For the most part, multi-family households were an extension of the primary family. Older, recently married children comprised the majority of second and third families. More extended kinship arrangements or unrelated families in the same households were rare.

[3] Bureau of the Census Current Population Reports: persons of Spanish origin in the United States; March 1975, Series P-25, No. 529.

AGE AND SEX CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS

TABLE: 6

SEX OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD HEADS

MALE	84%
FEMALE	15%

TABLE: 7

AGE OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD HEADS

25 years old and less	11%
25 to 35	18%
36 to 45	30%
46 to 55	25%
56 to 65	12%
66 and over	5%

mean age 43
mediam age 47

Eighty-four (84) of one hundred (100) migrant households surveyed were headed by males. Two measures of central tendency for age are presented, the mean and mode.

The modal age category for household heads is 47 years. The weighted average (mean) was 43 years. Age of household heads is substantially higher than expected. The modal and mean age category for Spanish Surnamed households according to Bureau of the Census estimates is estimated to be between 25-34. Migrant household heads are clearly older than the norm.

TABLE: 8

AGE OF SPOUSE IN SURVEY HOUSEHOLDS

25 and less	23%
26-35	22%
36-45	31%
46-55	17%
56-65	6%
66 and over	1%

The weighted average (mean) age of female spouses is 36 years. The modal age category is 44 years. This age clustering is consistent with ages of heads of households. On the average wives of migrant farmworkers are 7 years younger than their male husbands.

Additional family members can best be described by drawing a profile of an average migrant family. Besides male and female heads of households, whose average ages are 43 and 36, respectively, a typical migrant family has four (4) children. Probability of the children being male and female are equal. Of those children residing at home, ages are as follows: the eldest is 16; the next oldest is 14, followed by a twelve year old; the youngest child's age ranges from 10 to 11. These age levels significantly indicate a probability that fewer younger families are being attracted to migrant or agricultural type work. Family members in the teen age and young adult age group, whose parents remain in this type of work, are learning some type of vocational skill and in many cases are working in a non-agricultural type work field. However, this analysis should not be misconstrued, the fact still remains that the migrant stream is stable for the next five to ten years.

TABLE: 9

AGE DISTRIBUTION IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

AGE	PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS
5 and less	11%
6 - 16	25%
17 - 25	17%
26 - 35	14%
36 - 45	15%
46 - 55	14%
56 - 65	3%
66 and above	1%

Ages of all persons identified in survey households are presented. These figures include children. Thirty-six (36%) percent of the migrant population is under sixteen. Although about one in three of the survey population is older than 35 less than 1% is above sixty-five.

TABLE: 10

ETHNIC GROUP OF HEADS OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

Mexican American (born in U. S.)	72%
Mexican (born in Mexico)	23%
Black	2%
Anglo	2%
Other	1%

Ninety-five (95%) percent of migrant households are headed by Mexican American, either born in the U. S. or Mexico.

Interviewers made no effort to establish whether Mexican-born respondents were documented or undocumented workers. This was not within the purview of the study. These percentages may seem to be distorted, but upon reviewing U. S. Department of Agriculture's "Farm Wage-workers, 1973, Agricultural Economic Report Number 349," our figures are substantiated as compared to the stastics reported for the Southern States as a group. The user should keep in mind that any and all population figures should be categorized and combined as serve each user's need. Consideration should also be given to standard errors, as all statistics are subject to when tested and weighted.

HOUSING

TABLE: 11

RESIDENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

Urban	78%
Rural, Farm	11%
Rural Non-farm	11%

The portion of migrants living in urban settings is similar to the remainder of Texas population. Nearly eight of ten live in cities of ten thousand or more. Others live in farm residences or in towns with less than ten thousand persons.

TABLE: 12

TYPE OF RESIDENT OF RESPONDENTS

Rented house, public	3%
Rented Apartment, public	2%
Rented house, private	17%
Rented Apartment, private	13%
Owner occupied home	53%
Tenant farmer	5%
Living with relatives	7%

A majority of migrant households in the survey sample reside in self-owned houses. The remainder are dispersed in public, private and relative owned housing. A relatively small percent of all households contacted are tenant farmers. Since the majority of migrant households are self-owned, Texas can always expect home owning migrants to return to their home base after every season. This ownership factor also discourages the settling out in other states.

Nearly two-thirds of all households were found to be in from very-poor to poor conditions and the remaining one-third in fair to good condition. A very significant number of households were found to be lacking facilities and were pest infested.

MIGRANT INCOME

Survey participants were asked for an estimate of their 1975 income. Due to the sensitivity of this information, interviewers emphasized that response to the question was voluntary. Interviewers also offered additional assurances of confidentiality. Seven out of ten persons in the survey responded to the question.

TABLE: 13

ANNUAL INCOME OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

Income Categories	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
$1000 or less	4%	4%
1001 to 2000	14%	18%
2001 to 3000	17%	35%
3001 to 4000	20%	55%
4001 to 5000	18%	73%
5001 to 6000	9%	82%
6001 to 7000	7%	89%
7001 to 8000	5%	94%
8001 to 9000	2%	96%
9001 to 10000	1%	97%
10 thousand plus	3%	100%

The median annual income for households in the survey is $3,990. The modal category is $3,000 to $4,000 which represents one of five sample households. Seventy-three percent of migrant households earn less than $5,000 per annum. Only three percent earn more than $10,000.

For comparative purposes, national income distribution is shown in Table 14. These data demonstrate the wide discrepancy between migrant income and income for the broader population. Less than three (3%) percent of migrant households earn incomes at levels approaching the national average. Migrant incomes represents less than thirty (30%) percent of the national average.

The survey household consisted of those people living and eating together in family style and sharing common space and facilities. Family income for these household included the money income of the household head, plus the money income of all his relatives 14 years of age and over who were household members at the time of the survey. For comparison purposes, gross wages were used, that is, wages before deductions for withholding taxes, social security, union dues, etc. This is in line with previous surveys done by U. S. Bureau of the Census and U. S. Department of Agriculture.

TABLE: 14

ANNUAL INCOME FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN THE UNITED STATES*

Income Categories	Percentage
$1000 or less	2%
1001 to 2000	5%
2001 to 3000	5%
3001 to 4000	7%
4001 to 5000	5%
5001 to 6000	5%
6001 to 7000	4%
7001 to 8000	5%
8001 to 9000	5%
9001 to 10000	4%
10000 plus	53%

*Source: Bureau of the Census; Current Population Survey, 1975.

A comparison is also offered between migrant household income and poverty levels defined by the Department of Labor.

TABLE: 15

POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES*

Size of Family Unit	Farm Family
1	$ 2,400
2	$ 3,160
3	$ 3,920
4	$ 4,680
5	$ 5,440
6	$ 6,200

*SOURCE: Texas Department of Community Affairs; "Manpower Services Directive, Balance of State Issuance No. 75-42", April 19,1976.

According to these guidelines, seventy-eight percent of the migrant households have incomes below the poverty levels.

The importance of farm income as a percentage of total household income was also examined.

TABLE: 16

FARM INCOME AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME

FARM INCOME

Percentage of Total Household Income	Percentage of Households
20% or less	7%
21 - 40%	10%
41 - 60%	14%
61 - 80%	9%
81 - 99%	9%
100	51%

mean percentage of income derived from farmwork: 76%

Average migrant households earn seventy-six (76%) percent of their total annual income from farmwork. Over fifty (50%) percent of the sample surveyed earned all income from farmwork. Only one in four households earned more than fifty (50%) percent of their income from non-farm activity.

To a certain extent, this might be an indication of a decreasing dependency on farmwork by former highly active migrant farmworkers. Household income is perhaps the most important indicator of economic well-being and dependence on agriculture.

SEASONAL FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLDS

The Department of Labor calssifies seasonal farmworkers for less than five months per year. Seasonal farmworkers differ from migrant workers in that they do not have to change their residence to obtain work. They differ from full time farmworkers by virtue of the fact that their work lasts less than half a year.

For the purposes of this population survey, seasonal farmworkers are defined as persons who:

- have recently (within the last five years) been engaged in farm work or farm related activity;
- work for five months or less annually in farm work or farm related work; and
- are not required to change their residence to obtain work.

A total of 122 seasonal farmworker households were interviewed. Sampling and interviewing methodology for the seasonal farmworker survey was the same as that described for migrant farmworker households. In analyzing the data, households which met the three criteria above were grouped separately. Then, seasonal farmworker households were compared with migrant households to determine which characteristics differ between the two groups.

Instead of presenting all characteristics of seasonal farmworkers; only those which differ significantly from the migrant population are offered. For information not specifically presented for seasonal farmworkers, the reader needs only refer to migrant household data. Following are those characteristics which vary significantly between seasonal and migrant farmworker households.

TABLE: 17

HOUSEHOLD SIZE (Seasonal Farmworkers)

No. of Families	Percentage
1	77%
2	15%
3	5%
4	3%

While migrants tend to live in single family households, nearly one in five seasonal farmworker households in the survey have multiple families.

TABLE: 18

AGE OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD (Seasonal Farmworker)

Age	Percentage
Less than 25	15%
26 - 40	30%
41 - 60	35%
61 and over	20%

Heads of seasonal farmworker households tend to be significantly older than the average population as well as their migrant counterparts. One in five are over sixty: The mean age is 50. This age pattern is not wholly unexpected. Seasonal farmworkers, by their very status, are marginally underemployed. Semi-retired persons seeking temporary employment would quite naturally be drawn to seasonal farmwork. Younger household heads have broader opportunities and more economic pressure to secure full time employment. Hence, the sample and population has a disproportionate skewness toward older persons.

TABLE: 19

HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Seasonal Farmworker)

Income	Percentage
$2,000 or less	5%
2001 - 4000	32%
4001 - 6000	36%
6001 - 8000	19%
8000 and above	8%
median income $4,187.00	

Seasonal farmworker household income is somewhat higher than migrant income. A greater percentage of households earn above $4000 and fewer earn less than $2000. The median income for seasonal farmworker households is about $200 per year more than migrant households. In addition, a smaller percentage of household income is earned from farmwork, as one would expect. Other household and demographic characteristics, as well as social service agency usage is similar for both migrant and seasonal farmworker households in the survey.

USAGE OF SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

One objective of the migrant population survey was to measure the use of social services by migrants and seasonal farmworkers. Round II survey respondents (the unbiased group) were asked to name the agencies to which they applied and the services which they had received or were currently receiving. Interviewers received lists of agencies or services in their geographic area to ensure respondents understood what was meant by the question (It was often the case that respondents had applied for manpower services, food stamps or medical aid, and in many cases received assistance, without knowing the name of the service agency). Table 2 indicates the percentage of respondents receiving social services.

TABLE: 20

MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING SOCIAL SERVICES

Those receiving services	52%
Those not receiving services	48%

A slight majority of respondents claimed to be receiving services. The following agencies were noted as being service providers.

TABLE: 21

SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY
USAGE OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

Food Stamp Program	21%
Department of Public Welfare (AFDC)	18%
Texas Employment Commission	17%
Medical Service Centers	10%
School Free Lunch Program	8%
Social Security Administration	8%
Community Action Agencies	5%
Miscellaneous City-County Migrant Assistance Programs	5%
Legal Aid	4%
Manpower Programs	4%

MOBILITY PATTERNS

Much has been conjectured about the nature of farm-worker migration patterns, but little was actuall known. To obtain more understanding of migrant "streams", the survey respondents were asked their work destinations. Furthermore, it should be noted that the instrument was applied during the off-season, when migrants are expected to have returned to their home base areas. The "off-season" covering from October 1st thru April 15th.

TABLE: 22

DESTINATION OF MIGRANT FARMWORKERS

STATE	PERCENTAGE
Texas	37%
New Mexico	10%
Ohio	8%
Michigan	7%
California	2%
Florida	5%
Colorado	4%
Indiana	3%
Arizona	2%
Illinois	2%
Mississippi	2%
Nebraska	2%
Minnesota	2%
Other states	17%

As Table 22 indicates about one out of three migrants travel to other parts of Texas for work. The most

discernible flow is from the Lower Rio Grande Valley to the Panhandle. In addition, there is very noticeable movement toward the Middle Rio Grande Valley.

The second most popular destination is New Mexico. Agricultural activity in the area of Las Cruces, New Mexico, is a major focal point for migrants living in far West Texas and the Upper Rio Grande region. Migrants from the same areas also comprise most of the group which travels to California, Arizona and northwestern states.

The principal destination of lower Rio Grande Valley migrants is the upper midwest. They travel to Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Minnesota and other North Central states. Migrants from the Coastal Bend area follow a similar pattern, with somewhat more inclination toward eastern states.

East Texas migrants are vectored toward the deep south-Florida and Louisana. Their Central Texas counterparts gravitate in the same direction. The patterns have been traced onto national maps for clearer representation.

COASTAL BEND REGION

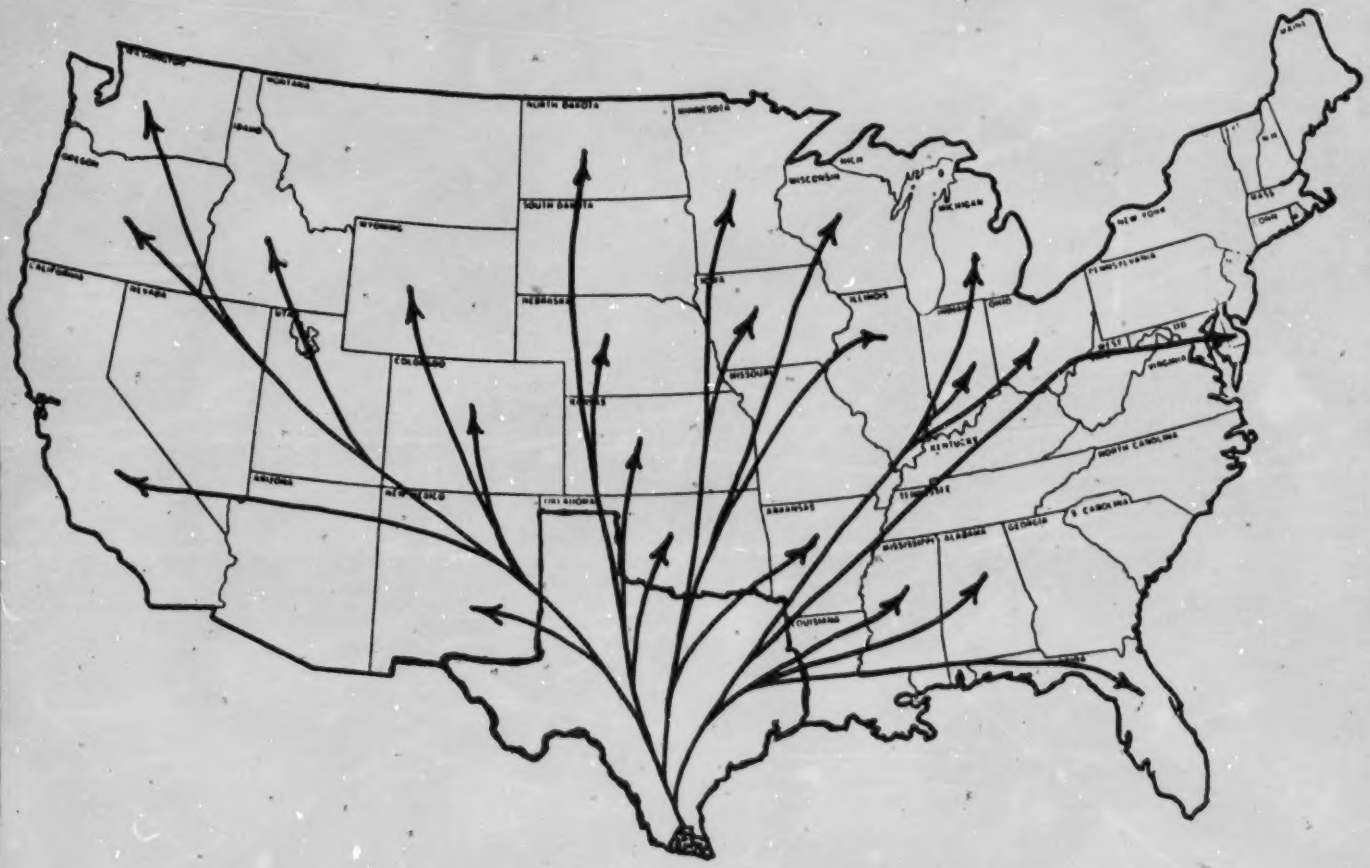
Mobility Pattern

GULF COAST REGION

Mobility Pattern

LOWER RIO GRANDE REGION

Mobility Pattern

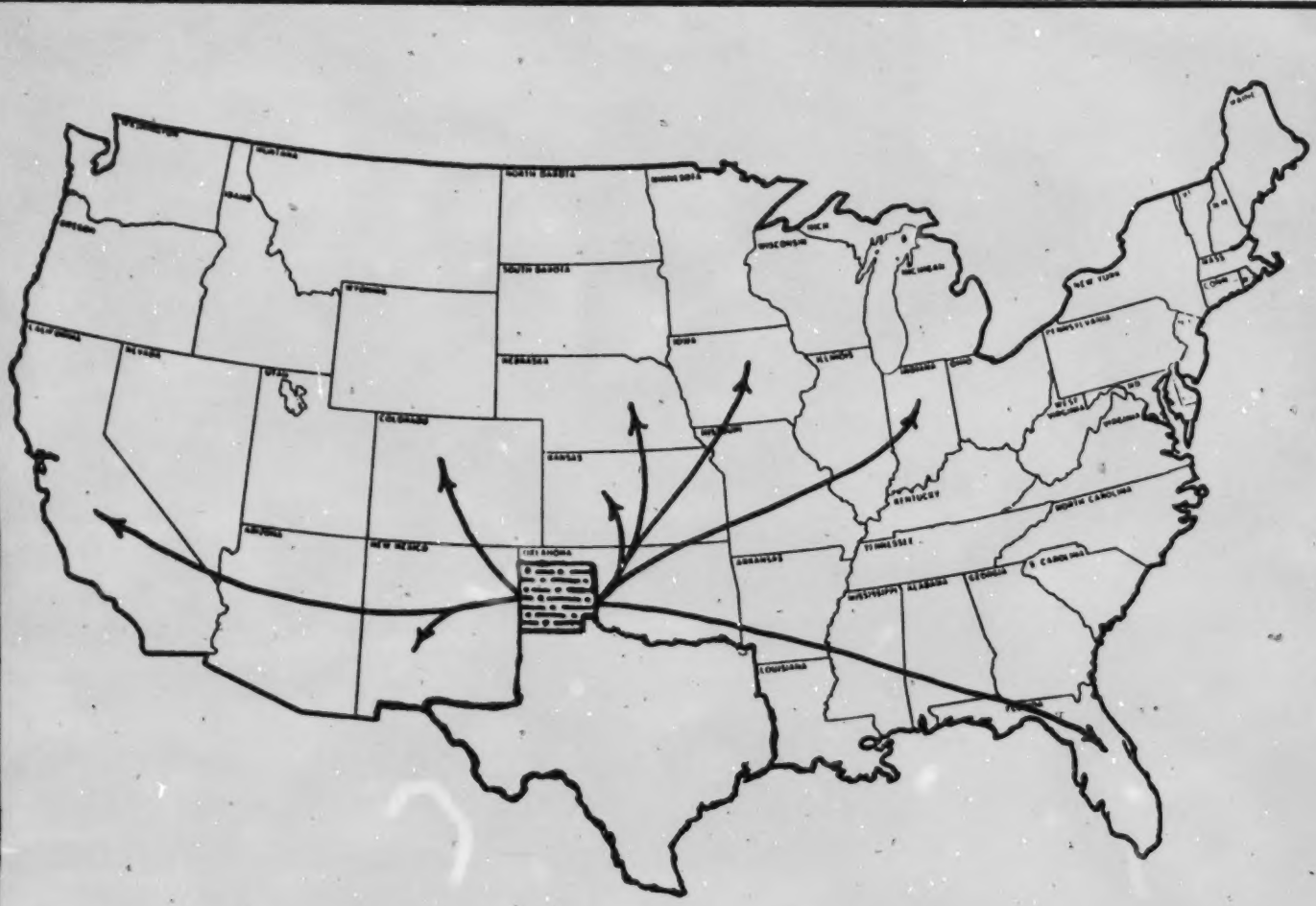


MIDDLE RIO GRANDE REGION

Mobility Pattern

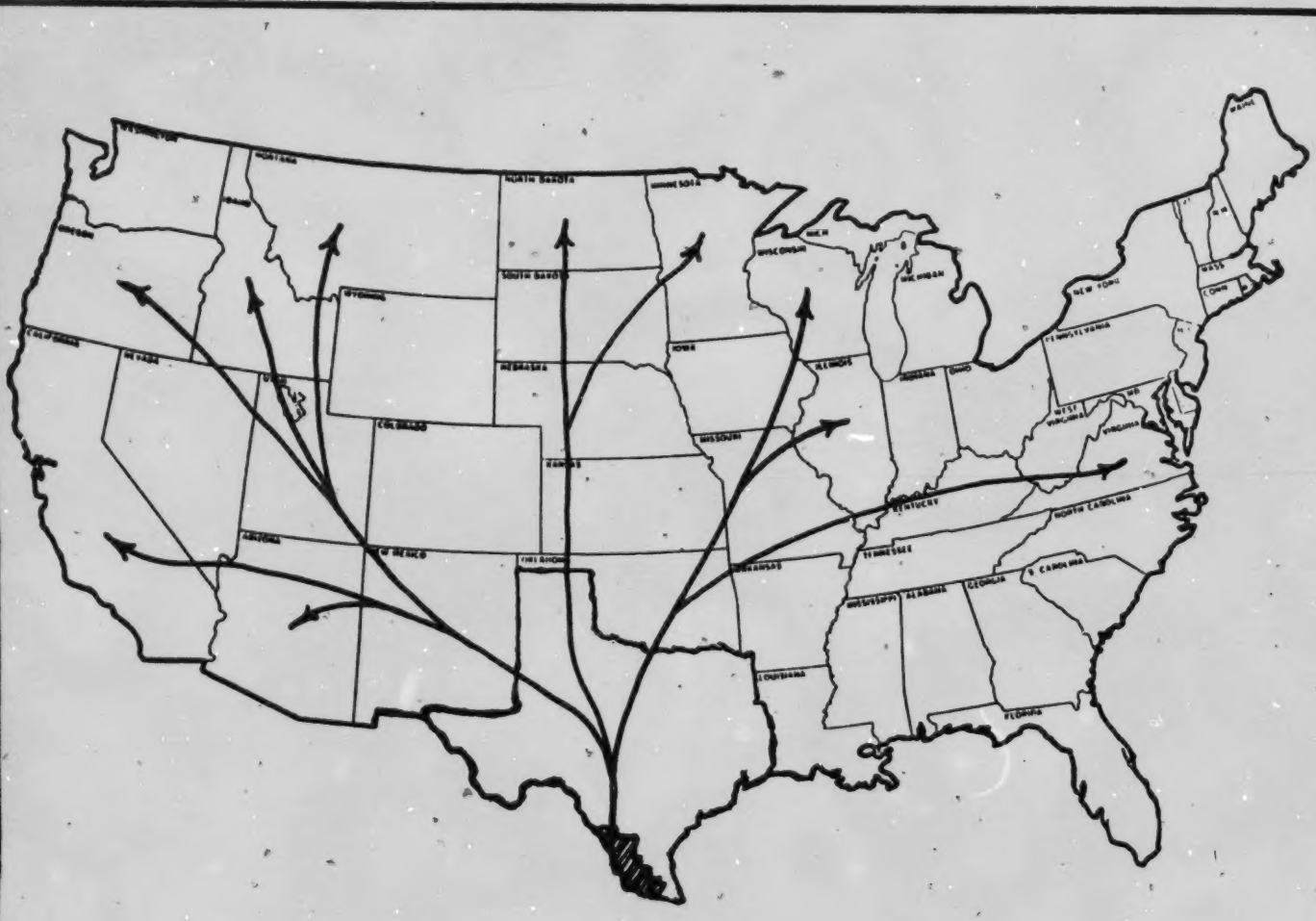
PANHANDLE REGION

Mobility Pattern



SOUTH TEXAS REGION

Mobility Pattern



UPPER RIO GRANDE REGION

Mobility Pattern

RESULTS

POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS

At the outset of this project, it was recognized that any census taking operation is a formidable task. Difficulties become even more amplified when dealing with a population as mobile as migrant and seasonal farmworkers. Typically, migrants leave their home base in March, April and May and return during September, October and early November. Many migrants return only for a short period and travel to a winter garden area.

Although most migrants own their home, many of them are so mobile from year to year, making them even more difficult to contact or enumerate. With enough time and resources, a relatively difinitive count of migrant and seasonal farmworkers could be obtained. However, this project was limited both in time and resources. The total project consumed less than twelve man years, including outreach worker and GOMA project staff. The data based was restricted to seven regions in the state, the remainder was not included. Data collecting was done between September and April. Those potential respondents not at their home base during this period were excluded.

Sample size was sufficient to provide an excellent description of migrant and seasonal farmworker

characteristics. The probability that any of the characteristics noted above are due to chance, is significant at the .01 level of confidence. However, the reliability and validity of the total population estimate have no such assurances. The following estimates should only be taken for their face-value as projected estimates having restricted statistical testworthiness. The estimates are a combination of primary and secondary data. As such, only the primary data was controlled for threats against validity and reliability. Estimates are more accurate in the survey sites than in the remainder of the state, since primary data on the remainder of the state was obtained outside the sites.

Despite these limitations, the estimates represent an earnest attempt to enumerate the migrant and seasonal farmworker population. Final figures were calculated in the following manner.

In the first round of interviews, respondent's names were taken from Texas Employment Commission rolls, where they were disignated as migrants and seasonal farmworkers. Besides obtaining a demographic description of Round I households, the principal reason for the interview was to obtain the names of acquaintances involved in similar occupations. A list of these names was maintained by the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs project director. The second round of interviewing was restricted to names obtained from

Round I interviewees. Nothing was known about the households, save for their occupational status. It was anticipated that the group would comprise an unbiased, random sample. As such, findings could be extrapolated to the larger population. Approximately 930 households were interviewed in Round II. Findings from this group were applied to Texas Employment Commission and Bureau of the Census data and projected for the entire state.

First, Round II households listed and unlisted by Texas Employment Commission local offices were calculated, in the seven areas under scrutiny. The average percentage of households listed by Texas Employment Commission was 17%. Thus, Texas Employment Commission's lists represent 17% of the total number of migrant and seasonal farmworker households. In the Texas Employment Commission's total agricultural employment report, dated October 1975, it was reported that 14,700 migrant and seasonal farmworkers were registered throughout the state. By dividing 17% into those figures, a state-wide estimate of households was obtained. The mean household size is 5.84 persons. Multiplying the total estimate of households by this figure produces the following migrant and seasonal farmworker population estimates.

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
ALAMO STATE				
Atascosa	1,726	421		
Bandera	15	86		
Bexar-San Antonio	15,495	642		
Comal	386	136		
Frio	1,561	456		
Gillespie	161	121		
Guadalupe	821	306		
Karnes	682	361		
Kendall	153	121		
Kerr	218	86		
Medina	1,561	421		
Wilson	824	296		
TOTAL	23,603	3,453	GRAND TOTAL	27,056
BRAZOS VALLEY				
Brazos	586	490		
Burleson	189	264		
Grimes	87	211		
Leon	-0-	167		
Madison	-0-	87		
Robertson	249	166		
Washington	-0-	711		
TOTAL	1,111	2,096	GRAND TOTAL	3,207
CAPITOL				
Bastrop	374	132		
Blanco	85	35		
Burnet	92	164		
Caldwell	993	189		
Fayette	264	244		
Hays	1,683	299		
Lee	199	264		
Llano	-0-	40		
Travis-Austin	1,862	428		
Williamson	900	637		
TOTAL	6,452	2,432	GRAND TOTAL	8,884

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
CENTRAL TEXAS				
Bell	385	681		
Coryell	4	129		
Hamilton	29	107		
Lampasas	766	75		
Milam	161	492		
Mills	12	171		
San Saba	181	251		
TOTAL	1,538	1,906	GRAND TOTAL	3,444
COASTAL BEND				
Aransas	-0-	-0-		
Bee	6,319	354		
Brooks	1,496	224		
Duval	597	314		
Jim Wells	2,554	294		
Kenedy	154	184		
Kleberg	1,943	199		
Live Oak	1,056	199		
McMullen	134	89		
Nueces-Corpus Christi	6,479	2,038		
Refugio	89	199		
San Patricio	5,723	894		
TOTAL	26,544	4,988	GRAND TOTAL	31,532
CONCHO VALLEY				
Coke	2	217		
Concho	127	394		
Crockett	41	361		
Irion	17	321		
Kimble	47	77		
Mason	42	140		
McCulloch	356	155		
Menard	24	424		
Reagan	2	341		
Schleicher	549	361		
Sterling	-0-	145		
Sutton	34	351		
Tom Green	1,710	399		
TOTAL	2,951	3,686	GRAND TOTAL	6,637

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
DEEP EAST				
Angelina	-0-	84		
Houston	-0-	593		
Jasper	-0-	223		
Nacogdoches	-0-	62		
Newton	-0-	45		
Polk	67	84		
Sabine	-0-	67		
San Augustine	-0-	62		
San Jacinto	-0-	201		
Shelby	-0-	196		
Trinity	40	178		
Tyler	24	258		
TOTAL	131	2,053	GRAND TOTAL	2,184
EAST TEXAS				
Anderson	-0-	259		
Camp	-0-	-0-		
Cherokee	24	214		
Gregg	-0-	47		
Harrison	24	52		
Henderson	-0-	334		
Marion	-0-	62		
Panola	-0-	219		
Rains	-0-	27		
Rusk	4	67		
Smith	-0-	1,101		
Upshur	-0-	32		
Van Zandt	2,566	312		
Wood	-0-	202		
TOTAL	2,618	2,928	GRAND TOTAL	5,546
GOLDEN CRESCENT				
Calhoun	134	3,564		
DeWittt	1,919	284		
Goliad	1,193	295		
Gonzales	1,833	553		
Jackson	209	189		
Lavaca	449	295		
Victoria	339	324		
TOTAL	6,076	5,504	GRAND TOTAL	11,580

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
GULF COAST				
Austin	-0-	55		
Brazoria	42	518		
Chambers	-0-	110		
Colorado	75	95		
Fort Bend	204	438		
Galveston	90	378		
Harris	396	931		
Liberty	47	269		
Matagorda	373	453		
Montgomery	-0-	115		
Walker	-0-	50		
Waller	-0-	184		
Wharton	3,436	756		
TOTAL	4,663	4,352	GRAND TOTAL	9,015
HEART OF TEXAS				
Bosque	29	157		
Falls	113	559		
Freestone	-0-	296		
Hill	65	549		
Limestone	37	221		
McLennan	559	684		
TOTAL	803	2,466	GRAND TOTAL	3,269
LOWER RIO GRANDE				
Cameron	53,221	6,255		
Hidalgo	63,199	14,028		
Willacy	4,509	3,120		
TOTAL	120,929	23,403	GRAND TOTAL	144,332
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE				
Dimmitt	4,873	1,859		
Edwards	365	404		
Kinney	298	369		
LaSalle	2,221	484		
Maverick	10,326	559		
Real	115	399		
Uvalde	1,491	3,927		
Val Verde	5,706	1,136		
Zavala	6,921	1,809		
TOTAL	32,316	10,946	GRAND TOTAL	43,262

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
NORTH CENTRAL				
Collin	159	406		
Dallas	312	307		
Denton	6	172		
Ellis	135	722		
Erath	374	135		
Hood	39	115		
Hunt	-0-	219		
Johnson	39	396		
Kaufman	-0-	172		
Navarro	10	322		
Palo Pinto	875	72		
Parker	-0-	120		
Rockwall	-0-	47		
Somervell	-0-	10		
Tarrant	229	396		
Wise	-0-	120		
TOTAL	2,178	3,731	GRAND TOTAL	5,909
NORTH EAST				
Bowie	289	536		
Cass	-0-	150		
Delta	2	78		
Franklin	-0-	17		
Hopkins	-0-	50		
Lamar	-0-	918		
Morris	-0-	17		
Red River	-0-	342		
Titus	-0-	17		
TOTAL	291	2,125	GRAND TOTAL	2,416
NORTH TEXAS				
Archer	-0-	27		
Baylor	75	47		
Childress	1,217	254		
Clay	27	100		
Cottle	294	169		
Foard	-0-	47		
Herdeman	576	227		
Jack	-0-	132		
Montague	-0-	122		
Wichita	186	227		
Wilbarger	237	264		
Young	92	32		
TOTAL	2,704	1,648	GRAND TOTAL	4,352

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
PANHANDLE				
Armstrong	-0-	75		
Briscoe	1,565	426		
Carson	-0-	85		
Castro	6,030	481		
Collingsworth	1,222	391		
Dallam	-0-	316		
Deaf Smith	10,440	1,923		
Donley	234	45		
Gray	3,276	401		
Hall	3,088	341		
Hansford	-0-	306		
Hartley	286	135		
Hemphill	-0-	60		
Hutchinson	-0-	75		
Lipscomb	-0-	318		
Moore	85	286		
Ochiltree	-0-	115		
Oldham	-0-	20		
Parmer	11,410	837		
Potter	40	336		
Randall	-0-	381		
Roberts	-0-	812		
Sherman	-0-	95		
Swisher	316	531		
Wheeler	55	416		
TOTAL	38,047	9,207	GRAND TOTAL	47,254

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
PERMIAN BASIN				
Andrews	-0-	25		
Borden	-0-	30		
Crane	17	5		
Dawson	4,359	1,191		
Ector	284	60		
Gaines	1,620	448		
Glasscock	-0-	209		
Howard	214	642		
Loving	-0-	5		
Martin	110	732		
Midland	125	329		
Pecos	17	95		
Reeves	-0-	194		
Terrell	-0-	10		
Upton	-0-	10		
Ward	-0-	85		
Winkler	-0-	10		
TOTAL	6,746	4,080	GRAND TOTAL	10,826
SOUTH EAST				
Hardin	-0-	82		
Jefferson	19	1,452		
Orange	-0-	116		
TOTAL	19	1,650	GRAND TOTAL	1,669

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
SOUTH PLAINS				
Bailey	4,621	1,175		
Cochran	2,167	630		
Crosby	1,881	480		
Dickens	1,860	515		
Floyd	5,857	1,600		
Garza	370	285		
Hale	9,703	2,561		
Hockley	2,641	845		
King	31	70		
Lamb	5,301	1,470		
Lubbock	7,982	2,916		
Lynn	2,843	790		
Motley	453	355		
Terry	1,981	1,185		
Yoakum	2,210	295		
TOTAL	49,901	15,172	GRAND TOTAL	65,073
SOUTH TEXAS				
Jim Hogg	991	168		
Starr	6,679	1,775		
Webb	17,728	2,955		
Zapata	2,004	887		
TOTAL	27,402	5,785	GRAND TOTAL	33,187
TEXOMA				
Cooke	-0-	30		
Fannin	63	1,453		
Grayson	-0-	-0-		
TOTAL	63	1,483	GRAND TOTAL	1,546

MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER POPULATION

COUNTY NAME	MIGRANTS	SEASONAL FARMWORKERS		
UPPER RIO GRANDE				
Brewster	182	90		
Culberson	-0-	199		
El Paso	6,931	698		
Hudspeth	618	419		
Jeff Davis	37	50		
Presidio	178	60		
TOTAL	7,946	1,516	GRAND TOTAL	9,462
WEST CENTRAL				
Brown	82	122		
Callahan	-0-	82		
Coleman	177	460		
Comanche	4,490	192		
Eastland	54	92		
Fisher	588	476		
Haskell	1,656	177		
Jones	-0-	374		
Kent	-0-	107		
Knox	1,423	127		
Mitchell	229	369		
Nolan	137	227		
Runnels	396	663		
Scurry	496	304		
Shackelford	57	97		
Stephens	164	67		
Stonewall	69	57		
Taylor	608	137		
Throckmorton	-0-	82		
TOTAL	10,626	4,212	GRAND TOTAL	14,838
STATE OF TEXAS GRAND TOTALS	375,658	120,822		496,480

PART IV:

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs, through an extensive survey of selected regions in Texas, has attempted to provide a definitive estimate of the state's migrant and seasonal farmworker population. Of particular importance was the migrant population since service to this group is the designated function of the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs. However, the seasonal farmworking population did come under scrutiny in the survey.

Nearly 2000 persons were included in the data base used to project population estimates. These sample households were visited by trained interviewers to obtain information. As in any sample survey, estimates generated in this study are subject to limitations. Readers are cautioned to accept figures more as indices rather than precise counts. However, the data does provide a clear description of a population about which little was known before. Several of these findings are worthy of discussion.

*Since there is no current estimate of the migrant farmworking population, it is difficult to compare Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs survey findings with other estimates. The study concluded that as of January, 1976, there were approximately 64,700 migrant households and 22,000 seasonal farmworking households in Texas.

While the migrant population estimate is somewhat higher than expected, the seasonal farmworker projection is less than anticipated. According to the Texas Employment Commission (total Agricultural Employment, October 15, 1975) there were an estimated 25-30,000 seasonal farmworker households. Texas Employment Commission's data is extrapolated from 1970 Bureau of the Census figures. As such, it may not reflect changes which have occurred in the agricultural sector over the last six years. The 1980 census should similarly reflect a diminution in the seasonal farmworker population.

Census estimates for migrant farmworking households did not vary substantially from Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs survey findings. Bureau of the Census estimated 350,000 persons residing in migrant households in 1970. Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs estimates the total migrant population to be somewhat more than 375,000 persons.

*Migrant/seasonal farmworker households are composed of well established, older families. Although their annual income is well below national norms, sample households seem reluctant to subscribe to and receive social services. Only about seventeen percent of the group actively uses the Texas Employment Commission either for

job searching or unemployment benefits. Fully one half of the sample surveyed used no social service agency at all, although most are eligible for a wide range of support and assistance.

A major factor affecting whether or not survey hoursholds accept social services is family pride. Many respondents, however destitute or indigent they may have been, preferred to make it on their own. Several other factors also contribute to the extent and level of use of social service agencies. Respondents cited a number of reasons:

- geographic distance between respondents and agencies;
- questionable value of services
- too much certification or red tape in applying or receiving services;
- rudeness of intake personnel

*Texas migrants are not as mobile as was previously thought. More than one in three travel within Texas.

West Texas migrants tend to travel to the western states. Migrants in the Rio Grande Valley generally move to the midwest, while their East Texas counterparts migrate to eastern states.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Perhaps the most pressing need of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in to improve income. Clearly the income earning power of these persons is extremely limited. Concerted efforts sould be initiated to assist farmworkers increase their productivity and earning power, or to find better paying jobs. Programs should be developed in two directions: 1) to enhance farmworkers productivity in their present occupation; and, 2) to provide a more flexible system of occupational change.

In the first instance, farmworkers could benefit from training programs which upgrade their present occupational capability. Such programs must be flexible, so as not to interfere with income earning activity. They should be created and offered so that farmworkers can obtain as much relevant training as possible with the least amount of time and resource cost. Through innovative approaches to upgrading their present careers fewer persons will be forced out of the stream against their will. A major deterent to remaining in the stream is the poor income earning potential of the profession. Programs could be offered to farmworkers both at the secondary and post secondary level which provide instruction in numerous areas of agribusiness. Short term course

extension services, cooperative programs and regular semester courses could be made available in areas having large numbers of farmworkers. They could be offered during the Winter when most migrants return to their home base. Programs should be flexible, individualized and bilingual offering maximum inducement to students to re-enroll annually. The impact of a well designed training program would be wide spread, offering migrants an opportunity to upgrade, rather than change their skills.

For farmworkers desiring occupational change, special consideration should be made of their circumstances. The few training programs which are available, such as the Migrant Assistance Program and College Assistance Migrant Programs, are limited to a relatively younger age group. Few training opportunities exist for farmworkers over twenty-five; however, nearly ninety (90%) percent of migrant households are headed by persons over twenty-five. Thus, nine of ten persons are effectively excluded from formal occupational or academic training programs. Consequently, whenever migrants do leave the stream and farmworkers seek full time non-agricultural employment, they find few work opportunities save for the blue collar and unskilled occupations.

It is recommended that experimental and innovative approaches be applied to the task of retraining migrant/

seasonal farmworkers for different jobs. Often, the age and income needs of farmworkers prohibit their matriculating in a formal vocational or academic program. Moreover, most come from backgrounds placing little priority on academic skills. Farmworkers generally lack the cultural, economic and academic background required of successful students in post secondary educations.

Although migrant and seasonal farmworkers have academic deficiencies, programs have been developed in many institutions for such students. These programs provide compensatory education, specialized counseling support and flexible, short term vocational training. A number of institutions of higher education in Texas are national pace setters in meeting the needs of older, academically limited students. The overwhelming majority of colleges, however, offer little or no opportunities for farmworkers seeking new careers. The Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs urges the cooperation of all training institutions throughout the state in meeting the unique needs of migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

The need for expanded services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers is also apparent. Less than one half of the sample interviewed in this survey are receiving social services. Only about one in six farmworkers use Texas Employment Commission Services. Somewhat more than twenty percent are certified for food stamps. Even fewer receive

manpower, legal, medical and other welfare services.

Delivery systems should be scrutinized to determine major limitations. New approaches can be developed to assure that potential clients are apprised of available services. This can be accomplished through more mobile and broader outreach services, less cumbersome intake procedures, and faster expedition of application.

Finally, it is recommended that the Bureau of the Census pay particular attention to the migrant and seasonal farmworker population in the 1980 Census. Minority groups have been traditionally underenumerated and the Bureau of the Census is taking positive steps to reduce counting errors in the future. The transient and mobile status of migrants and seasonal farmworker causes numerous difficulties for census takers. Being on the move, they are hard to find from year to year. Many do not file 1040 income tax forms since they often receive pay in cash, without deductions. As a result, farmworkers are often uncounted by the special Internal Revenue/Bureau of the Census enumeration program. It is of on-going importance that the 1980 census be accurate, particularly since it will serve as the basis for program distribution and funding throughout the 1980's.

The Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs is deeply indebted to members of the State Manpower Services Council

for their guidance and cooperation. In addition, we are grateful for the assistance offered by prime sponsors which participated in the study. Through continued program efforts which combine the resources of agencies with similar mandates, service delivery will become more efficient and effective. Hopefully, the socio-economic conditions of farmworkers will be improved.

PART VI

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

POPULATION SURVEY INSTRUMENT

(English Version)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF MIGRANT AFFAIRS

Population Survey Instrument

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

SOC. SEC. # _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

1. Have you or anyone in your household been paid to work on a farm, in a packing shed or done any other work related to getting farm products ready for market since 1970?
   1__Yes 2__No (If "no" stop the interview.)

2. When was the last year you/he/she did that?_____
   (Year)

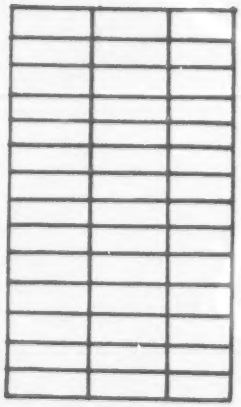
3. How long did the job last? 1__more than 5 months
   2__less than 5 months

4. Did you have to leave home in order to do the work?
   1__Yes 2__No

5. To where did you travel to get the work?
   1 In State_____
   (location)
   2 Out State_____
   (location)

6. How many people live in this household three or more months per year?

   How many families?



7. How many travelled to the worksite?_____

8. How many worked? _____

9. What is the annual household income for all persons noted above? _____

10. How much was earned from farmwork? _____

How much was earned from other sources?

_____welfare
_____non-farm occupations
_____retirement
_____unemployment compensation
_____social security
_____food stamps
____other_____ (specify)

11. Interview conducted in home? 1__Yes 2__No

12. Dwelling:

A. 1__Urban 2__rural-farm 3__rural non-farm

B. 1__public housing
2__privately rented house
3__privately rented apt.
4__owned by occupant
5__tenant farm
6__living with relative or friend
7__move into low-rent housing if available
8__other_____ (specify)

C. 1__very poor condition
2__poor condition
3__fair condition
4__good condition
5__excellent condition

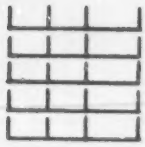
D. Characteristics (may check more than one)

1__pest-infested
2__no iniside toilet
3__no inside water
4__no heat
5__no electricity

13. Ethnic group of head of household

1__American of Mexican descent
2__Mexican-born
3__Black
4__Anglo
5__Other _____ (specify)

14. What type of Social Service Programs have you applied for?

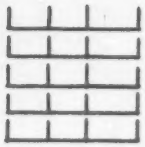


1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

15. Are you or any member of your family now receiving services?

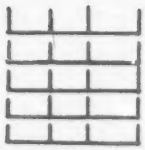
1. ____Yes 2. ____No

16. From what agencies do you or members of family receive services?



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

17. If not currently receiving services, which agencies have you used in the last five years?



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

18. Do you know any other migrant/farmworkers or anyone doing similar work?

1. ____Yes 2. ____No

If Yes _____
Name

_____
Address

_____
City State Zip

Phone (Area Code) (Number)

Appendix 2

POPULATION SURVEY INSTRUMENT

(Spanish Version)

OFICINA DE EL GOBERNADOR

DE ASUNTOS DE MIGRANTES

INSTRUMENTO DE CUENTAS DE POBLACION

NOMBRE_____ DOMICILIO_____

NUM. DE SEG. SOC./___/___/___/___/ CIUDAD_____ CODIGO POSTAL_____

└┘ 1. ¿A trabajado usted o alguna persona de su vivienda en una granja, en en tejadillo de empaque, o han hecho trabajo relacionado a transportar los productos al mercado entre el año 1970 y el presente?

1. ____Si 2. ____No(Si la Respuesta es "no" pare la entrevista)

└┘└┘ 2. ¿Que fue el ultimo año en que usted/el/ella trabajaron asi?

_____
Año

└┘ 3. ¿Que fue el termino de tiempo? 1.____mas de 5 meses
2.____menos de 5 meses

└┘ 4. ¿Salio fuera de su domicilio para trabajar?

1. ____Si. 2. ____No.

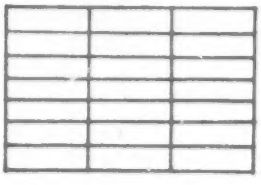
5. ¿A donde viajaron para obtener el trabajo?

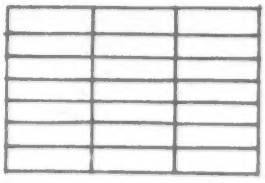
└┘└┘└┘└┘└┘└┘└┘ 1. En el Estado _____
(local)

└┘└┘ 2. Fuera del Estado _____
(local)

└┘└┘ 6. ¿Cuantas personas viven en esta casa de 3 meses o mas por año?

└┘ ¿Cuantas familias viven en esta casa?





7. ¿Cuantos caminaron al punto de trabajo? _____

8. ¿Cuantos trabajaron? _____

9. ¿Qual es la ganancia total anualmente de todas las personas viviendo en esta casa? _____

10. ¿Cuanto fue la ganancia de trabajo agricola? _____

¿Cuanto fue la ganancia de otros principios? _____

____Dep. de Comodidad

____Retiramiento

____Seguro Social

____Trabajo no-agricola

____Compensacion de Desempleo

____Estampillas para Alimentos

____Otros Principios

_____
(Especifique)

11. ¿Entrevista fue en casa? 1. ____Si 2____No

12. Habitacion:

A. 1____Urbano 2.____Rural-Rancho 3____Rural-Nc Rancho

B. 1____Habitacion Publica

2____Casa de Renta, Privada

3____Apto. de Renta, Privado

4____Casa Propia

5____Rancho de Renta

6____Viviendo con pariente o amistad

7____Cambiaria a habitacion de renta baja si disponible

8____Otros Principios _____
(especifique)

C. 1____Condiciones my pobres

2____Condiciones Pobres

3____Condiciones Pasables

4____Condiciones Buenas

5____Condiciones excelentes

└┴┘ D. Caracteristicas (Posible indicar más de uno)

1.___infestado de peste 4___Sin calentador

2.___sin baño 5___sin electrecidad

3.___sin agua

└┘ 13. Grupo etnico de el amo de casa.

1.___Americano de origen Mejicano

2.___Ciudadano Mejicano

3.___Negro

4.___Anglo-Americano

5.___Otro Origen _____
(Especifique)

14. ¿A cuales programas de Servicio Social ha aplicado?

└┴┘ 1. _____

└┴┘ 2. _____

└┴┘ 3. _____

└┴┘ 4. _____

└┴┘ 5. _____

15. ¿Recibe usted o algún miembro de su familia ayuda de uno de estos programas?

└┘ 1. ___Sí 2. ___ No

16. ¿De cuales agencias reciben ayuda?

└┴┘ 1. _____

└┴┘ 2. _____

└┴┘ 3. _____

└┴┘ 4. _____

└┴┘ 5. _____

17. ¿Si no reciben ayuda, cuales agencias les han proveado ayuda en los ultimos 5 años?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

18. ¿Conoce usted otros migrantes/trabajadores agricoia?

1. ____Sí. 2. ____No

Si? El Nombre _____

_____
(Domicilio)

_____
Ciudad Estado Codigo Postal

Telefono(Area (Codigo de)) (Numero) _____

Appendix 3

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES

POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES

Size of Family Unit	Farm Family
1	$ 2,400
2	$ 3,160
3	$ 3,920
4	$ 4,680
5	$ 5,440
6	$ 6,200